

CLAIMS

1. A fluid spray apparatus, comprising:

a pump providing a source of the fluid at an elevated pressure;

a delivery system having an elongate configuration with a proximal end and a distal end, the delivery system being coupled at its proximal end to the pump;

the delivery system having properties for expelling the fluid under pressure from the distal end and in a predetermined spray pattern;

a nozzle receiver included in the delivery system and disposed at the distal end of the delivery system;

a plurality of nozzles each adapted to be individually coupled to the nozzle receiver and to provide the spray pattern with an associated configuration;

a nozzle retainer coupled to the delivery system in proximity to the distal end of the delivery system; and

the nozzle retainer being adapted to releasably retain the nozzles in proximity to the distal end of the delivery system and thereby facilitate a change of the nozzles and the associated spray patterns.

2. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 1 wherein the nozzle retainer includes:

a base plate adapted to receive the nozzles; and

an attachment for coupling the base plate to the delivery system in proximity to the distal end of the delivery system.

3. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 2 wherein the base plate is adapted to receive the nozzles in an ordered pattern.

4. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 2 wherein the fluid flow path extends through one of the base plate and the (attachment mechanism).
5. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 4 wherein the fluid flow path extends through the base plate.
6. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 2 wherein the base plate rotates relative to the attachment mechanism.
7. A fluid spray apparatus, comprising:
 - a pump providing a source of the fluid at an elevated pressure;
 - a delivery system coupled to the pump for distributing the fluid under pressure to a desired location;
 - a flexible hose included in the delivery system and having a proximal end and a distal end, the proximal end of the hose being coupled to the pump;
 - a wand included in the delivery system and being coupled to the distal end of the hose;
 - a handle included in the wand and being coupled to the hose;
 - an elongate tube coupled to the handle at a proximal end and being adapted to expel the fluid from its distal end in a spray;
 - a plurality of nozzles each adapted to be coupled to the distal end of the tube and each having characteristics for providing the (spray) with a different pattern; and
 - a retainer disposed in proximity to the handle for releasably retaining the nozzles in proximity to the distal end of the hose when the nozzles are not coupled to the tube.

8. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 7 wherein the delivery system includes:

a vase adapted to releasably retain the nozzles; and

an attachment mechanism for coupling the base to one of the handle and the elongate tube.
9. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 8 wherein the attachment mechanism couples the base to the elongate tube.
10. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 9 wherein the base is rotatable relative to the attachment mechanism.
11. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 8 wherein the attachment mechanism is coupled to the handle.
12. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 11 wherein the attachment mechanism is disposed between the handle and the elongate tube.
13. The fluid spray apparatus recited in Claim 11 wherein the attachment mechanism is disposed between the handle and the flexible hose.

14. A method for changing the spray pattern of a fluid spray apparatus, comprising the steps of:

introducing a fluid under pressure into a proximal end of an elongate delivery system;

expelling the fluid under pressure from a distal end of the elongate delivery system in a spray having a predetermined pattern;

providing a plurality of nozzles each having properties for being coupled to the distal end of the delivery system to provide the spray with a different associated pattern;

retaining the nozzles when not in use in an ordered pattern relative to a retainer, the retainer being disposed in proximity to the distal end of the delivery system;

removing a predetermined nozzle from the retainer;

mounting the predetermined nozzle on the distal end of the delivery system to provide the spray with the configuration associated with the predetermined nozzle.

15. The method recited in Claim 14 wherein the mounting step includes the steps of:

providing the retainer with a base and an attachment mechanism; and

coupling the attachment mechanism in proximity to the distal end of the delivery system.

16. The method recited in Claim 15 wherein the removing step includes the step of:

rotating the base relative to the attachment mechanism.

17. The method recited in Claim 15 wherein the delivery system defines a fluid flow and the mounting step further comprises the step of:

mounting the retainer with the fluid flow extending through the base.

18. A combination, including:

a nozzle having a spray orifice;

a cylindrical coupler included in the nozzle, the coupler being sized and configured to be releasably held in a receiver;

a nozzle cleaner having a cleaning pin for removing debris from the spray orifice of the spray nozzle;

a cylindrical coupler included in the nozzle cleaner, the coupler and the nozzle cleaner having generally the size and configuration of the coupler of the nozzle; and

a retainer having a hole therein sized and configured to receive alternatively the coupler of the nozzle and the coupler of the nozzle cleaner.

19. A nozzle cleaner adapted to remove debris from the output orifice of a nozzle, comprising:

a carrier;

a pin having a fixed relationship with the carrier and being sized and configured to enter the output orifice of the nozzle;

a guard pivotally mounted relative to the carrier to facilitate movement between a first position and a second position of the guard, the guard in the first position covering the pin; and

the guard in the second position being removed to expose the pin and thereby facilitate cleaning of the orifice of the nozzle.

20. The combination recited in Claim 19 wherein the guard is maintained in the second position by a detent.

21. The combination recited in Claim 20 wherein the guard is pivotal on a living hinge integral with the carrier and the guard.